

OK to enter
8/25/2004
Brian Smith

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A sample ingredient analyzing system comprising:
a sensor pack comprising a sensor chip comprising a reaction portion for reacting with a test sample and a packaging material covering the sensor chip; and

an analyzing device comprising an opening for accepting said sensor pack, and a retaining means member retaining the sensor chip in the sensor pack accepted through the opening, said analyzing device analyzing an ingredient in a test sample supplied to the reaction portion by detecting a change in the reaction portion.

2. (Currently Amended) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said sensor chip comprises engagement means for engagement with said retaining means member.

3. (Currently Amended) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said retaining means member penetrates said packaging material at least to reach said sensor chip.

4. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said packaging material comprises a handle to be held by a user.

5. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said packaging material comprises positioning means for positioning the sensor chip.

6. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said analyzing device comprises positioning means for positioning the sensor chip when only the sensor chip is inserted through said opening.

7. (Currently Amended) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said analyzing device comprises retention undoing means for undoing the retention continued by said retaining ~~means~~ member.

8. (Currently Amended) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said analyzing device comprises state changing means for changing the state of said retaining ~~means~~ member between a state of receding from said sensor pack and a state of retaining said sensor chip, and

wherein said state changing means changes the state of said retaining ~~means~~ member so that said retaining ~~means~~ member is in the receding state when said sensor pack is inserted, and so that said retaining ~~means~~ member is in the retaining state after the completion of insertion of the sensor pack.

9. (Original) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 8, wherein said state changing means is operated by a movable member which is moved by insertion of the sensor pack.

10. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 9, wherein said analyzing device comprises a power supply switch operated by the movement of said movable member.

11. (Currently Amended) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 8, wherein said analyzing device comprises a power supply switch capable of turning on and off the power supply to said analyzing device by being linked to the two states of said retaining ~~means~~ member.

12. (Currently Amended) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said analyzing device comprises reaction information acquisition means for obtaining information on a reaction at the reaction portion from said sensor chip, and

wherein said analyzing device positions said reaction information acquisition means on said sensor chip by retaining said sensor chip by said retaining ~~means~~ member.

13. (Currently Amended) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein, when said packaging material is removed from said opening while said sensor chip is retained by said retaining ~~means~~ member, said sensor chip is taken out from said packaging material in such a manner that said sensor chip is brought into contact with said packaging material to tear said packaging material, and

wherein said packaging material comprises a force receiving portion provided at a position at which said sensor chip is brought into contact with said packaging material, a force applied by said sensor chip being concentrated at said force receiving portion.

14. (Original) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 13, wherein a portion of said sensor chip remote from said reaction portion is taken out first from the packaging material.

15. (Currently Amended) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said analyzing device comprises reaction information acquisition means for obtaining information on a reaction at the reaction portion from said sensor chip, said reaction information acquisition means being provided in said retaining ~~means~~ member.

16. (Currently Amended) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 3, wherein said packaging material comprises a penetrable portion through which said retaining

means member can penetrate, and a penetration stop portion which stops the penetrating action of said retaining means member,

wherein said analyzing device comprises:

reaction information acquisition means for obtaining information on a reaction at said reaction portion by being brought into contact with said sensor chip; and

state changing means for changing the state of said reaction information acquisition means between a first state of being spaced apart from said sensor pack or loosely contacting said sensor pack and a second state of contacting said sensor chip, and

wherein said state changing means sets said reaction information acquisition means in said first state when said retaining means member penetrates said penetrable portion to retain said sensor chip, and sets said reaction information acquisition means in said second state when said packaging material is removed from said opening, and when said retaining means member is retaining only said sensor chip.

17. (Original) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said sensor pack contains a desiccant.

18. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 17, wherein said sensor pack comprises a handle to be held by a user, and a desiccant accommodation portion for accommodating the desiccant is provided in said holding.

19. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein a predetermined orientation of said sensor pack with respect to the direction of insertion into the opening of said analyzing device is prescribed, and

wherein a cross-sectional shape of said sensor pack as viewed in the direction of insertion and from an orientation different from said predetermined orientation is different from a cross-sectional shape of said opening as viewed in the direction of insertion.

20. (Original) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 19, wherein said sensor chip has the shape of a generally flat block, and each of said sensor pack and said opening has a shape exhibiting an asymmetry on the opposite sides of the two surfaces of the sensor chip.

21. (Original) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 19, wherein said sensor chip has the shape of a generally flat block, and each of said sensor pack and said opening has a shape asymmetric as seen in opposite directions along a surface of the sensor chip.

22. (Original) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein a predetermined orientation of said sensor chip with respect to the direction of insertion into the opening of said analyzing device is prescribed, and

wherein a portion of said sensor pack on one side in the direction of insertion along said predetermined orientation and another portion of said sensor pack on the opposite orientation side differ in shape from each other.

23. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, further comprising inserted state detection means for detecting an insertion state of the sensor pack comprising a detecting portion provided in said analyzing device and a portion to be detected provided in said sensor pack at a predetermined position.

24. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said analyzing device comprises first reaction information acquisition means for obtaining information on a reaction at said reaction portion from said sensor chip when said

sensor chip is inserted in a state of having a predetermined orientation to the opening, and second reaction information acquisition means for obtaining information on a reaction at said reaction portion from said sensor chip when said sensor chip is inserted in the opening in a state of having an orientation different from said predetermined orientation.

25. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, further comprising information holding means for holding information on said sensor chip, said information holding means being provided on at least one of said sensor pack and said sensor chip, and information recognition means for recognizing information held by said information holding means, said information recognition means being provided in said analyzing device.

26. (Original) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 25, further comprising insertion orientation determination means for making a determination as to whether the orientation of said sensor chip with respect to the direction of insertion is correct by checking whether information from said information holding means can be recognized by said information recognition means.

27. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said analyzing device comprises opening forming means for forming an opening in the packaging material of said sensor pack.

28. (Previously Presented) A sample ingredient analyzing system according to Claim 1, wherein said analyzing device comprises speech generation means.

29. (Currently Amended) A sensor chip for use in a sample ingredient analyzing system including a sensor pack comprising a sensor chip comprising a reaction portion for reacting with a test sample and a packaging material covering the sensor chip, and an analyzing device having an opening for accepting the sensor pack and a retaining member retaining the sensor chip

in the sensor pack accepted through the opening, the analyzing device analyzing an ingredient in a test sample supplied to the reaction portion by detecting a change in the reaction portion, said sensor chip comprising engagement means for engagement with the retaining ~~means~~ member of the analyzing device through the packaging material.

30. (Cancelled).

31 (Previously Presented) A sensor pack for use with an analyzing device for analyzing an ingredient in a test sample, comprising:

a sensor chip;

a packing material covering the sensor chip; and

positioning means for positioning the sensor chip in the packaging material.

32. (Previously Presented) A sensor pack for use with an analyzing device for analyzing an ingredient in a test sample, comprising:

a sensor chip;

a packing material covering the sensor chip; and

a force receiving portion provided in the packaging material,

[wherein the force receiving portion is configured to be broken by the sensor chip when the packaging material is removed from the analyzing device that retains the sensor chip for analyzing the ingredient in the test sample.]

33. (Previously Presented) A sensor pack according to Claim 32, further comprising a desiccant.

~~34.~~ ^{Cancelled} (Previously Presented) A sensor pack according to Claim 30, wherein a desiccant accommodation portion for accommodating the desiccant is provided in said holding.

35. (Previously Presented) A sensor pack for use with an analyzing device for analyzing an ingredient in a test sample, comprising:

a sensor chip; and

a packing material covering the sensor chip,

wherein a predetermined orientation of said sensor pack is prescribed with respect to the direction of insertion into an opening of the analyzing device and

a cross-sectional shape of said sensor pack as viewed in the direction of insertion and from an orientation different from said predetermined orientation is different from a cross-sectional shape of the opening of the analyzing device as viewed in the direction of insertion of the sensor pack.

36. (Previously Presented) A sensor pack for use with an analyzing device for analyzing an ingredient in a test sample, comprising:

a sensor chip; and

a packing material covering the sensor chip,

wherein a portion of the sensor pack on one side in the direction of insertion and another portion of the sensor pack on the opposite side have different shapes.